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File No. 366/48 I

B CLASS

P.W DEPARTMENT
E BRANCH II

Subject:— Prohibition.

(1) General orders et re. the

(2) Constitution of committees etc Bombay and Bombay Suburban Distt.

(3) Facilities to prohibition affected persons.

B I K 1951

File No. 366/48 I E (II)

Std. Sect. Slip 21 A

Std. Secit. 78A e.

G R., G D., No 2408, dated 22-5-22.]

Correspondence

DOCKET SHEET (B)

Subject :—

File No. 366/48 I

P.W. DEPT.

E BRANCH, R

References :—

Date.	To whom sent.	Notes and instructions.

Extract paragraphs from A scheme for the Rehabilitation of prohibition affected persons in the Bombay Province.

INTRODUCTORY 'A'

PROHIBITION UNEMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

During the last Congress Ministry, the whole problem of Rehabilitation of persons thrown out of employment due to Prohibition was being looked after by a separate Committee called "The Prohibition Unemployment Committee". They used to interview and examine each case separately and grant such relief as was necessary according to its merits. Relief by way of monthly monetary assistance, rent-free accommodation, medical and, freeships, costs of books, loans, supply of sewing machines or boot lace machines for carrying on independent trade etc. was being given to the prohibition affected persons and their children. Jobs of clerks, peons, etc. in Government offices were also given to those persons who were suitably qualified.

In 1938-39 Prohibition was restricted to certain areas of the Province of Bombay, such as the Cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad, parts of the districts of Kanara, Broach, Kaira and Ahmednagar. These measures did not cause wide-spread unemployment and the boom period of the War provided ample opportunities of reabsorption to the Prohibition affected persons. Therefore, perhaps it was not though necessary to take measures of a more permanent nature for the rehabilitation of persons affected due to Prohibition. The Prohibition Unemployment Committee extended only immediate relief on these cases of unemployment or destitution etc.where extreme hardship was proved to have been caused due to the introduction of Prohibition in specified localities.

The reversion of the policy of Prohibition especially with regard to foreignliquor during the Advisory Regime in 1940 even in those specific areas gave scope to many affected persons to go back into the foreign liquor trade.

INTRODUCTORY B .....

INTRODUCTORY B.

RECREATION, COUNTER - ATTRACTION AND SOCIAL WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Having decided to introduce Total Prohibition by stages during the period of 1947-1950, Government visualized wide-spread unemployment amongst those engaged in the liquor and today trade all over the Province. In order to cope with the situation adequately, Government dissolved the Prohibition Unemployment Committee recently and transferred its work to the Recreation, Counter-attraction and Social Welfare Sub-Committee of the Provincial Prohibition Board with Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Fisheries and Backward Classes as its Chairman. The Standing Committee of the above-sub-Committee at its meeting held on 24th November 1948 decided that all cases of Prohibition-affected persons should come to the Board for final decision through the City/Distric Prohibition Provincial Prohibition/Committees concerned. It was also decided that monetary help should be given in cases where the persons are reported to be destitutes by the Dist/City Prohibition Officers and Collectors.

The Commissioner of Excise was authorised to examine each case individually and takex final decision. The help given to destitutes was to be only for a given period of 3 to 6 months at the most, only to help the persons to tide over the period of their unemployment. Efforts were to be made to find suitable employment for each destitute and the minimum of recurring expenditure was to be incurred.

The Committee further laid down the following procedure for receiving applications. Those who were affected due to Prohibition and had become destitutes, should apply thorugh the Prohibition Officers who will investigate the cases and report to the Department through the Collector. After the case is examined by the Department, the Commissioner will pass order regarding the nature and extent of assistance. The Committee carefully considered the work that the Employment Bureau was doing hitherto.

Several.....

DJT./-

Several such cases pertaining particularly to Greater Bombay were uptil now examined and after careful scrutiny of their applications, suitable financial and other assis-tance such as freeships, rent-free accommodation, Provision of spectacles, cost of books was recommended. New cases asking for help from Provincial Prohibition Board are rece-ived from time to time and are being dealt with on their own merits. In the case of those of the persons who had asked for jobs it was decided that they should be helped to get one anywhere. Their applications for jobs addressed to outside offices are being recommended by the Provincial Prohibition Board. In certain cases Government is being requested to relax age, and educational qualifications so that those persons may be suitably placed. In some cases the applicants were recommended for posts of clerks, peons, drivers, cleaners etc. direct or through the Employment Exchanges. It may however be observed that so far during the transition period in spite of closure of some toddy and liquor shops all over and in spite of reductions in quotas, the full regour of Prohibition Unemployment is not being felt. This is due to the fact that Bhandaris, tappers, transporters and others have continued to do reduced part-time liquor or toddy work and have gradually shifted into some other local pursuits, on their own. But by April 1950 it is expected that the unemployment due to Prohibition will take its full toll, specially so as a post-war slump is gradually coming over all avenues of trade, industries and employment. The Provin-cial Prohibition Board will have to finalise its proposals to meet the situation squarely and promptly.

These 8,500 people are scattered all over the Province, about a 100 per district mostly in cities or towns and central villages and therefore it should not be very difficult for them to get absorbed somehow. Most of these people have no aptitude for agricultural pursuits, but if any Co-operative farming or development societies

are .....

are contemplated, they could be absorbed as Managers, clerks, store-keepers etc. Many of them could also be absorbed as Mukadams, Time-keepers, watchmen and Store-keepers on the many P.W.D. and Irrigation, Water-supply and Electric Grid projects contemplated by Government. The Koyana Valley Project, the Gangapur project, the Daddi anf other schemes which will last from 5 to 10 years should be availed of for employing these people as well as the 5,000 transporters and servants employed by Toddy shops. Some can also be absorbed as peons or watchmen or clerks in Government Departments, if age limits and educational qualification standards are relaxed to some extent.

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No. 366/48-E(II). Public Works Department,
Bombay Castle (Bombay No. 1),
3rd March 1960.

Forwarded to -

the Electrical Commissioner with the Government of Bombay,
the Superintending Engineers of Circles,
the Public Health Engineer to Government,
the Electrical Engineer to Government,
the Director, Development Department Chawls,

for information and to report the cases for relaxation of age limit and educational qualifi-cation when they arise for consideration of Government.

By order of the Governor of Bombay,

Sd/-

for Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Public Works Department.

Issued.

Id/-

DJT./-.....

LETTER.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department, Bombay.

No.P.P.B.70/50. Bombay, 9th February 1950.

Subject:- Prohibition affected persons-
Rehabilitation of ..... in the
Privince of Bombay.

Reference Government Letter, Revenue Department, No. 3306/49-C, dated 26th November 1949 (copy enclosed).

In 1938-39 when Prohibition measures were first introduced in certain areas of the Province of Bombay, such as, the cities of Bombay and Ahmedabad, Bombay Suburban District, Broach District and parts of the Thana, Ahmednagar, Kanara and Surat Districts, a separate Committee called "The Prohibition Unemployment Committee" was appointed to look after the Rehabilitation of persons thrown out of employment owing to prohibition. This Committee after scrutinising every case granted relief in the deserving cases by way of monthly monetary assistance, rent free accommodation, medical aid, free ships, cost of books, loans, supply of sewing machines etc. Suitable jobs of clerks, peons, etc. in Government offices were also given to the prohibition affected persons having suitable qualifications.

2. The introduction of prohibition measures then did not cause wide-spread unemployment because of (i) the smallness of the prohibition area, (ii) the boom period of the war which provided ample opportunities of reasorption to the prohibition affected persons and (iii) relaxation of the policy of prohibition with regard to foreign liquor, during the Advisory Regime in 1940. In view of these facts, the Prohibition Unemployment Committee extended immediate relief only to those cases of unemployment or destitution etc. where extreme hardship was proved to have been caused due to the introduction of prohibition. No permanent measures were however, taken for the rehabilitation of the persons affected by prohibition.

3. .....

3. Now that Government has decided to introduce total prohibition by stages during the period of 1947-1950 therought the Province including the merged Indian States wide-spread unemployment amongst those engaged in the liquor and toddy trade would be a natural result and in order to cope with the increasing work in that connection Government transferred the work of prohibition Unemployment Committee, which was dissolved, to the Recreation, Counter-attraction and Social Welfare Sub-Committee of the Provincial Prohi--bition Board with the Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Fisheries and Backward Classes as its Chairman. The Standing Committee of the above Sub-Committee at is meeting held on 24th November 1948 authorised the Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise to examine, and to take final deci--sion, on each indivisual case of prohibition affected person, which should come through the City/District Prohibition Committee concerned. Accordingly help in vari--our forms is being given to such persons as are found to be adversely affected by prohibition on the lines indicated by Standing Committee. It may however be observed that so far during the transition period in spit of closure of a number of toddy and liquor shops all over and in spite of reduction in quotas, the full vigour of the prohibition Unemployment is not being felt. This is due to the fact that Bhandaris, tappers, transporters and others have continued to do reduced part-time liquor or toddy work and have gradually shifted into some other local persuits, on their own. But by April 1950, it is expected that the unemployment due to Prohibition will take its full toll, especially so, as a post-war slump is gradually coming over all avenues of trade, industries and employment. It is, therefore, imperative to devise and finalise ways and means to meet the situation of prohibition unemployment squarely and promptly.

4. .....

4. In view of the fact that a large number of people will be thrown out of employment on account of prohibition, it is necessary to evolve the principles in conformity with which further action could be taken. These principles as laid down by the Hon'ble Minister for Excise at the Officers Conference held on 1st July 1949 are :-

(1) The person or persons affected by prohibition should posses a certificate to the effect that his/their cases is genuine. Such certificates may be issued either by the Collectors or by the Prohibition Commissioner.

(2) There should be no distinction regarding caste or tribe and any relief and help given under this scheme should be based on (a) the economic condition of the applicant, and (b) the extent to which he has been hit by prohibition.

(3) The relief given under paragraph 2 should always be of such a nature as to enable the person to support himself and his dependents on his own within as short a time as may be feasible. As far as possible no offers of relief involving recurring expenditure to the Government year after year may be made.

(4) The money, talent and man-power wasted so far in the baneful trade in liquor and toddy should be channelised into productive and useful fields of activity connected with indigenous agriculture or national industries.

5. According to the information received from the Superintendents of Excise, it appears that about 15,000 people will be thrown out of employment by 1st April 1950. Their distribution according to the work performed by them is shown below:-

Statement .....

Statement showing the number and category of persons that will be rendered unemployed due to Prohibition in the province of Bombay.

	Toddy	Country liquor	Foreign liquor	Total.
Tappers.	6456	—	—	6456
Transporters.	2166	501	3	2670
Servants.	2723	2721	278	5722
Total ...	11345	3222	281	14848

6. It may generally be observed that the employees of foreign and country liquor shops are not more than 3,500 out of about 15,000 prohibition-affected persons. These 3,500 persons are scattered allover the Province, about a hundred per district mostly in cities, towns and central villages. Most of these people have no aptitude for agricultural pursuits. Many of these persons could be absorbed as Mukadams, Time-keepers, Watchmen and Store-keepers on the many Public Works Department and Irrigation, water supply and electric grid projects contemplated by Government. The Koyna Valley project, the Gangapur project, the Daddi and other schemes which will last from 5 to 10 years can be awaited of for employing these people as well as the 5,000 transporters and servants employed by toddy shops,. In view of these facts Government may be pleased to accord early sanction to the proposals mentioned above, as it would help to a great extent to solve the problem of unemployment caused by the prohibition policy of Government.

Sd/-
Deputy & Commissioner of Prohibiton and Excise.

THROUGH Revenue Department (with a spare copy) with reference to Government Letter, Revenue Department No. 3306/49-C, dated 26th November 1949.

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No. 366/48-E(II) Public Works Department,
Bombay Castle (Bombay No. 1),
17th March 1950.

Forwarded to -
the Electrical Commissioner with Government of Bombay,
the Superintending Engineers of Circles,
the Public Health Engineer to Government,
the Electrical Engineer to Government,
the Director, Development Department Chawls,

for .....

for information and guidance in continuation of Government Endoresement No. 366/48-E(II), dated the 3rd March 1950.

By order of the Governor
of Bombay,

Id/- O/C
Deputy Secretary to the Government of
Bombay, Public Works Department.

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Letter.

Very Urgent.
No. 366/48-E(II).

Public Works Department,
Bombay Castle (Bombay No. 1),

11th April 1950.

To

The Executive Engineer, Broach Division.
The Executive Engineer, Surat Division.
The Executive Engineer, South Thana Division.
The Executive Engineer, North Thana Division.
The Executive Engineer, Kolaba Division.
The Executive Engineer, Ratnagiri Division.
The Executive Engineer, Kanara Division.

Subject:- Rehabilitation of prohibition affected persons.

On account of the introduction of the total prohibition in the State of Bombay, there will be wide-spread unemployment amongst the persons who were till now engaged in the liquor and toddy trade. In order to assist such persons in finding out alternative employment, Government has decided that, other things being equal, persons holding certificates as "prohibition affected" should be given preference in Government service. It has also been decided to give preference in sanctioning road-works to co-operative Societies of Bhandaris.

2. You are requested to get in touch with the local District Prohibition Borad for your requirements of labour needed on Public Works Department works.

By order of the Governor of Bombay,

Id/- O/C

Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Public Works Department.

D.A;-Nil.

Copy to -

the Superintending Engineer, South Gujarat Circle,
the Superintending Engineer, Bombay Circle,
the Superintending Engineer, Western Circle,
the Superintending Engineer, Southern

for information and guidance.

Copies to -

the Revenue Department,
the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department,
the other Superintending Engineers of Circles,
the Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise,

for information.

(Add in the case of the Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition and Excise.)

13-4-50
Id/-
(2. A list of large works at present in progress or
A (those which will be undertaken shortly in the prohibition
(affected areas is enclosed.

A is received
Id/-
18/4/50

DJT./-